

Interagency Wildfire Management Team  
Meeting Notes  
October 23, 2002

Gene Darling (Emergency Management and Response, LANL) reported that there will be a meeting to discuss the status of the fire roads and fire breaks on October 30. Gene is also having discussions related to the availability of the helicopter for the 2003 fire season.

Steve Mee (Cerro Grande Rehabilitation Project Office, LANL) updated the IWMT on the upgrades of the fire roads and fire breaks. Bids for Fire Road A have been received and a contract award is planned for next week. In addition, ten roads in the DX area are in the bidding process.

Amanda Kuenzi (Bandelier National Monument) will submit an abstract for a poster on the recent drought mortality of trees to be presented at the 2003 National Fire Plan Conference in January. The data collection and analysis for this poster is a collaborative effort by the Monument and RRES-ECO.

Jim Whittington (Bandelier National Monument) reported that the compliance documentation for thinning forests along Highway 4 are nearly ready for signatures at the regional office. Jim also noted that mortality in the piñon-juniper woodlands in the Tsankawi area at Bandelier NM is high.

Fran Talley (Public Affairs Office, LANL) is beginning to plan for the Wildfire 2003 Public Meeting that will be held next April. The reservation of suitable venue to conduct the meeting is the first order of business. The advantages and disadvantages of the Fuller Lodge, the Civic Auditorium and other sites were discussed.

Randy Balice (Ecology Group, LANL) announced that approximately 65 percent of the data from the 2002 field season have been entered into a computer database. In addition, mortality surveys have begun and four plots have been sampled.

The next IWMT meeting will be at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, November 6, at TA-21, Building 210 in the Conference Room (142). The IWMT meets every other week and these meetings are open to the public. Contact Randy Balice (balice@lanl.gov, 665-1270) for further information, or to get on the distribution list for these meeting notes.